3-22-09

ESOP

(GNG) We are now officially out of STMG ESOP.

Grimm gives update on ESOP Venture.

2.9 million for P-T building

$15,000 for ESOP Feasibility Study

Find a Buyer – the paper will never be cheaper.

Ted's idea seems to be thinking STMG would like the idea.

We need to find "Deep Pocket" people.

— Adjourn for Chili Cook-Off. —

3-22-09

Quarterly Meeting

Attendance: Grimm, Tim Zorn, Mc, Jeff Nicholls, Jim Procter, Peggy Glenaie, Bob Estelle, Val Johnson, Diane Spivak, Mike McArdle, Scott Bort

call TO ORDER

Thanks to all & those who brought chili

McArdle, Spivak, Nicholls, Grimm, Sylvain – Chili

→

3-22-09

By-laws - haven't been updated since 1990.

Grimm goes over revisions he made.

1. Handicap dues Reduction
   1/2 off dues until could go back to full.
   a nice gesture to make.
2. Treasurer job description / financial controls
   provide audit material.
3. Stipends for officers
   Grimm proposes rollback to $600 from $1200.
   and sitting officers can't raise our salary
   Total of $600 in quarterly installments of $150

Grimm asks all to look over By Laws Revision
Next Quarterly Meeting membership will vote on revisions
will be available
Grimm thanks Spivak for retyping.

Debacle Update - (Karen Snelling)

Grimm: updates. Karen took $18,100 in debit card w/drawals over several years.
She didn't pay dues to TNG, got Lori and Peggy to sign checks

Bonded for $15,000. Insurance company has agreed to settle for max amount. ($15,000)
USAttny has not yet filed charges, but it's expected.
She claimed gambling addiction.

3-22-09

She has confessed. We have given feds all information.

When she is officially charged we will release press release. Keep it down. Be don't want to let Times break story. "Gentlemen's Agreement" w/ Pawlett + that we will let her go and make public - Try not to gossip.

Will she be replaced Spivak asks?

- Company brought in young kid right out of school for possible position. Andy wrote letter to Pawlett reminding her to call (lay off folks (Alaskovich, Tom Wyatt, etc.) Try not to nit pick. We wonder why not experienced journalist.

Website Update

McArdle is looking for photos of all officers. By Friday, will have it up and running. Simple, easy to access and read. Board wants to open Facebook presence. open for ex- Garysville.org Drop flyers to advertise in all mailbox.

3-22-09

Committee Updates

1. By Laws –
2. New Media – bargaining session coming up.
   Dirt will get New Media Agreement ready.
   McArdle has question about a combos. Reporters and photogs & equipment.
   Dirt says we should push short 1-minute videos; something not covered in Chicago Media.

   Blogs – time spent should be paid for.
   Copy desk – not automated.
   JoePichek – not a P-T employee, but STAFF. BUT he goes to budget meets; changes outlines blogs.
   So is he really exempt from Guild? We say no.
   Sports – designers asked to cover events = Combo issue.
   Reporters as Videographers –

   Quarterly meetings changed to monthly for New Media.

   Grimm asks all to survey people about New Media issues.

   New Media Committee will have ~~proposal~~ proposal by end of week.

3. Social – $1,000 budget backyards, RailCats, etc.
   as venues. Will come up w/events (Potter)

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3-22-09

Budget

working on reducing cost of McBride Rental.
Val has emailed budget to everyone.
ESOP – one time cost ($15,000). Last time ESOP was explored (~~15~~ 15-20 years ago) members chipped in $100 each. Maybe we could tap guild monies.
Suggestion ~~[illegible]~~ to pass budget by ~~[illegible]~~. Grimm suggested to pass budget. Val has concerns about $15,000 feasibility study. Several people have concerns of having it in the budget – people want to know when it comes up and it happens.
We are consider the ESOP on our own; not w/ Chicago Guild or other papers, etc. This is just to have study in Budget – but – pending membership discussion.
** Bob Estelle motioned, McArdle 2nd's adoption of budget.

Report
Val gives update of account. Roughly $83,000.
Val will have Report at quarterly meetings to give and have in official minutes.

Cathy Coats – we are running a deficit.
McBride – Lori is out staying at McBride. Grimm will talk

Mid West District Conf. – can get reduced price because we are small. Send only one delegate.

→

3-22-09

* Peggy motioned to terminate office @ McBride's.
Board 2nds.
Grimm wants to amend.

** Peggy motion to look into cadisy/McBride, find something cheaper.
2nd Stephanie

New Business

Dave Bartman honor
Maybe subsidize class/training/conference, etc.
in a Dave Bartman Scholarship fund.
Grimm suggests we save monies to start (from savings) and then have fundraisers to gather money.
Maybe a student scholarship.
Grimm wants a committee to discuss.
Jeff Nicholls wants this discussion held until a later time. These are discussions being had, but let's not have anything formal now.

Negotiations

Met initially 2 weeks ago. Gave update. Fairly positive start to negotiations.

Sunset Clause
One-time Rule of Refusal clause in call-back Lay Offs.

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3-22-09

Sick time - company wants to be able to fire employees that are chronically taking sick days.
(We will have meeting Tuesday March 24th.

SURVEY - Concerns about ~~contractions~~ Contracts.
Maybe a night differential equivelant for blogging.

Talk to people.

Motion to Adjourn
Scott, McArdle 2nds.